

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 19, 21 and 22. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently Amended) A Completely in the Canal (CIC) hearing aid body adapted to interchangeably fit inside the ear canal of either a right side or left side of an ear of a typical user such that a distal end of the body is disposed proximally adjacent to a tympanic membrane of said user, the hearing aid body comprising a rigid or semi-rigid shell that is shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user, the shell containing a permanently wired battery and the hearing aid body adapted to be disposable.
2. (Original) The body of Claim 1 formed of two half shells joined together with hollow interiors for housing hearing aid components.
3. (Original) The body of Claim 2 in which a soft tip is secured at the distal end of the body.
4. (Original) The body of Claim 3 wherein the tip includes a sound port for coupling sound from a receiver housed in the body to the membrane of a hearing aid user.

Claims 5. - 18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A hearing aid body comprising a shell which is shaped to be inserted into and useable inside the ear canal of a right ear or left ear proximal to the tympanic region of a user and which houses the requisite components for a functional hearing aid, the shell comprising a rigid or semi-rigid member that is shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user, the hearing aid components

including a permanently wired battery and the hearing aid body is adapted to be disposable.

20. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 19 in which the shell is formed of two halves which are bonded together and wherein a flexible tip is retained at a distal end of the shell.
21. (Currently amended) The hearing aid body of Claim 20 in which A hearing aid body comprising a shell which is shaped to be inserted into and useable inside the ear canal of a right ear or left ear proximal to the tympanic region of a user and which houses the requisite components for a functional hearing aid, the shell comprising a rigid or semi-rigid member that is shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user, the shell being formed of two halves which are bonded together and wherein a flexible tip is retained at a distal end of the shell; and wherein the components include a permanently wired battery and the hearing aid body is adapted to be disposable.
22. (Currently amended) A hearing aid body formed of a rigid or semi-rigid shell enclosing hearing aid components with a flexible tip retained at one end of the shell, the shell having a shape adapted to fit in the ear canal proximal to the tympanic region of either a right or left human ear, the shell being shaped to conform to at least a first bend in an ear canal of a typical user, the shell containing a permanently wired battery and the hearing aid body adapted to be disposable.
23. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 22 in which the tip contains a receiver and a sound tube extending between the receiver and a distal end of the tip.
24. (Previously presented) The hearing aid body of Claim 22 in which the shell is formed of two half-shells joined together and in which the components include a microphone, and signal processing electronics and a battery permanently wired to the electronics.